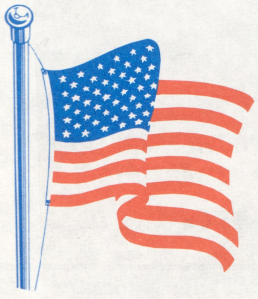
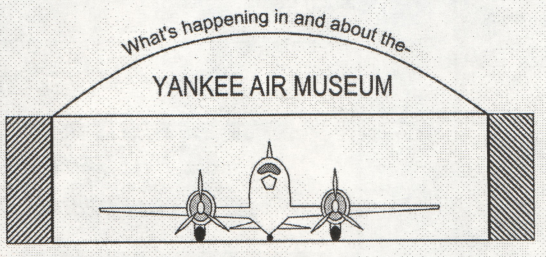
The Newsletter of the Yankee Air Force

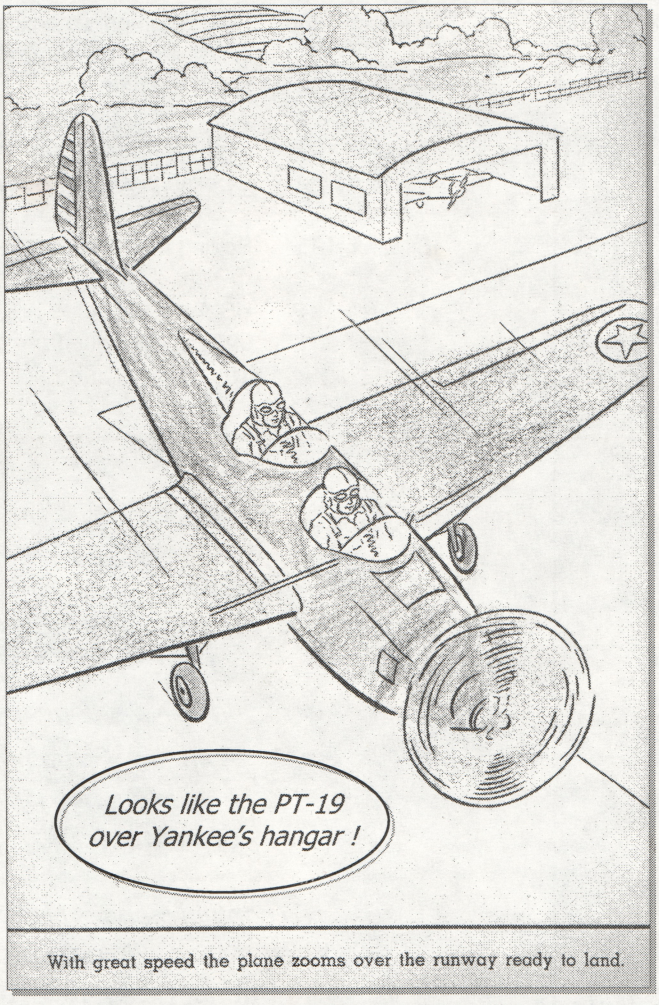





# Hangar Happenin's

## FLYING CADETS 1943 Coloring Books donated by **Jerry Nichols**

*Jerry always did like airplanes! Stayed inside the lines well, too.*

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March 2005

**Yankee Air Force, Inc.**
d/b/a **Yankee Air Museum**
A Non-Profit Organization
501(c)(3)
Hangar 2 - South & West Access
Willow Run Airport
Belleville, Michigan USA

***Hangar Happenin's*** is the monthly newsletter of the Yankee Air Force.

**Founding Editor:** **Bill Abbott**
1919 - 2000

**Graphic Artist:** Evelyn Rouse

**Staff:**
Mary Ann Bittner
Don Burke
Dave Steiner

**Contributors:**
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Dave Stonoski
Linda Terentiak

**Officers of the Yankee Air Force:**

**President:** Jon Stevens
**Vice-President:** Dick Stewart
**Secretary:** Mary Jane Medlock
**Treasurer:** Les Klima

**Directors:**
Deane Baker
Bill Colwell
Bill Hanney
Brian Higgins
Randy Hotton
Ray Hunter
Joe Leugers
Andrew Robinson
Dave Steiner
Kevin Walsh
Bill Wier
Dale Worcester

**Ex Officio:** Dennis Norton

## MEETING SCHEDULE

**General Membership**
1st Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
All Members & Guests Welcome

**Flyable Aircraft Meeting**
2nd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
Everyone Welcome

**Board Meeting**
3rd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
All Members Welcome

**Staff Meeting**
4th Saturday of Month - 10:30 AM
All Department Chairs & Managers

*Opinions expressed by our columnists are rightfully their own and do not necessarily reflect the outlook of our entire organization.*

## YANKEE AIR FORCE BYLAWS ARTICLE II - PURPOSES

**The YAF is organized exclusively to obtain, restore, preserve and operate historic and vintage aircraft, related components for historical research and public educational purposes, and to establish a museum to facilitate the public display and exhibition of such items.**

### WELCOME !

**SINCE THE FIRE IN OCTOBER THROUGH FEBRUARY 1ST**
**82 NEW MEMBERS HAVE JOINED US !**
**SEE THE HONOR ROLL OF NAMES ON PAGE 10.**

# PAST DATES OF INTEREST

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 March 1931 | ***Star Spangled Banner*** becomes US National Anthem |
| 4 March 1966 | F-4C Phantoms attacked by MiG-17 in first **air-to-air combat** over North Vietnam |
| 8 March 1991 | First US troops return from ***Operation Desert Storm*** |
| 18 March 1954 | Boeing produces first **B-52**A |
| 21 March 1941 | US Army Air Corps 99th Pursuit Squadron **Tuskegee Airmen** activated |

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

*Winner of the 50/50 drawing at our **February** meeting was*
***AMY EBERFLUS***
*donating her winnings to the B-25.*
*Winner of a patriotic **God Bless America** candle was*
***STEVE GUENTHER***

*To contact Hangar Happenin's*
E-mail: **hangarhapps@yankeeairmuseum.org**
Phone: **(734) 483-4030**

**HAVE ANY NEWS FOR OUR APRIL ISSUE ?**
**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR TEXT AND PHOTOS**
**WELL BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH.**

# The Hangar 2 Report

*by **Jon Stevens** L 4172 WR*

DAVE STONOSKI

As usual, the winter months are when we do our planning, both for the year ahead, and for the long term.

Our Long-Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has been very active since the October fire. Event planning for 2005 has continued, as you've seen in each issue's **ON THE HORIZON** page. Our annual aircraft Polishing Party will again take place, this year on Saturday 2 April 05. In past years, we've had as many as 200 members and guests attend. Once again, it should be a great event.

This summer's two biggest events will be *Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day* (Saturday 4 June 05) and *Thunder Over Michigan* (Saturday-Sunday 6-7 August 05). Besides another mini-symposium, this year's Vietnam event will also feature the renowned traveling Wall. While the traveling Wall is a scaled-down version of the actual memorial in Washington DC, it is just as moving, and is well worth seeing. Our current plans are to have the Wall set up next to two iconic aircraft from the Vietnam era: the B-52 and the Huey helicopter in our Air Park on the east side of the field.

Our long-term site planning meetings have continued, and we should have a finalized site nailed down by the time you read this. We are still planning to build on the east side of Willow Run Airport, east of where our original hangar stood. Plans for down the road include both a new flyable aircraft hangar, and at least one hangar for displaying static aircraft. Also included are the old Willow Run farm schoolhouse (often referred to as the Lindbergh House) and administration buildings.

Besides the initial office space that we had been granted, we've now been given permission to use some additional offices and the large classroom on the second floor of Hangar 2. We will be using this classroom space for our General Membership, Committee, and Board meetings. By the time you read this, our website will be updated with this information, and signs posted at the hangar.

Our fundraising efforts have also continued, with several events taking place this winter. Among the organizations working with us to make donations to the Yankee Air Museum Recovery Fund are the *Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce* and the EAA Chapter at Mettetal Airport, with their events in December on our behalf. In addition, some local restaurants have stepped up to the plate, including *Haab's* restaurant in Ypsilanti, and six local *Pizza Hut* restaurants donating a percentage of their proceeds from a single day in January. As part of our fundraising, a new annual event will have taken place by the time you read this. Those of you who were members a decade ago will remember the annual *Sweet-17* Valentine's Day dinner-dances that we held to help get the B-17 paid for and flying. We're reviving that tradition with the *Hearts to Yankee* dinner-dance and auction event taking place on Saturday 19 February 05. With over 100 items available for both the live and silent auctions, we're very excited about this event. The event is chaired this year by **Debbie Stewart**, co-chaired by **Casey Hines**, **Gayle Roberts** and **Jane Spires**, with assists from committee members **Don Brackett**, **Mike Cox**, **Paula Fields**, **Trudy Nollar**, **Dave Steiner** and **Bette Watson**. Each of them has put in a lot of work, and are owed our thanks.

With the date now set for Saturday 2 April 05, the variety show taking place at *The Village Theater at Cherry Hill* in Canton should be a lot of fun, and another success for us. Organized by our public relations director **Bob Hynes** this event will feature several Detroit area musicians who are donating their time and talents for our benefit.

Several of us from both Yankee Air Museum and the Michigan Aerospace Foundation are keeping public awareness of our museum going by making public appearances to talk about our fundraising and rebuilding efforts. Some of the groups we've spoken to in the metro area include local Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, and church groups. The support we're getting from these groups has been small up to this point, but as with anything new, that support is snowballing in our favor, and the contacts we're making have been good ones. Cash donations, both to YAM and MAF, have continued to come in steadily. For those wishing to help, donations can be mailed to:

MICHIGAN AEROSPACE FOUNDATION
P O BOX 8282
ANN ARBOR MI 48107-8282

On a closing note, several of us from both the Museum and MAF attended the *Great Lakes International Aviation Conference* in Lansing held this year on Thursday-Saturday 20-22 January. Attendees included **Robert Campbell**, **Gayle Roberts**, **Jane Spires**, YAM Vice President **Dick Stewart** and myself, as well as **Dennis Norton** and **Frank Sinagra** from MAF. Besides talking one-on-one to other conference goers to raise awareness of our Museum and Foundation, Willow Run Airport Manager Sean Brosnan, Gayle Roberts and I gave a talk on the history of Willow Run Airport. This was one of the best-attended presentations at the conference. Getting out there and spreading the word makes more people aware of who we are, what we're doing, and have a chance to get involved. While we never know at the time when any of these talks will bring a significant return, we do know they are a success and critical to our future.

As always, if you've got anything you'd like to discuss, please feel free to call me
**(734) 637-2117**
or e-mail
**jon_stevens_77@worldnet.att.net**

**UNTIL NEXT MONTH, LET'S KEEP TALKING, AND KEEPING 'EM FLYING!**

# BOARD REPORT

**19 January 2004**
by **Mary Ann Bittner**
edited by **Dick Stewart**

*All Yankee members are welcome at our monthly Board meetings. Please arrive on time, help yourself to a copy of the agenda, take notes and show your appreciation of our officers and directors at work. Members' comments are always heard before adjourning.*

AGENDA

Call to Order 7:30 PM
Pledge of Allegiance
Statement of Purpose
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Minutes: 15 December 2004
Official Results of 2004 Election
Swearing in of New Directors
Flyable Aircraft Budget Request
Separate Symposium Budget Request
Lapeer Property Discussion
Personal Request from Jon Stevens
Curator Requirements
Vietnam Veterans Recognition Discussion
Building Fund *Annual Capital Campaign*
Payroll Discussion
President's Report
Michigan Aerospace Foundation Report
Divisional Liaison Reports
Vice President's Report
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Board Members' Comments
All Members' Comments
Adjournment

Highlights of our first 2005 Board meeting were official election results and swearing in of newly elected directors **Deane Baker**, **Randy Hotton**, **Ray Hunter**, and **Kevin Walsh**. Applause also went to outgoing directors **Don Burke** and **Ted Drews**.

A Flyable Aircraft Fire Recovery budget of $82,000 was presented by **Ray Hunter** and approved. This included $35,000 for a B-17 engine, $15,000 for a C-47 engine, $12,000 for brakes, $2,500 for a carburetor, and $17,500 in miscellaneous replacement expenses, including an engine mount, wheels and tires **Norm Ellickson** has been able to acquire.

As presented by **Kevin Walsh**, the Board agreed to use separate budgets for our *Thunder Over Michigan 2005* air display ($120,000) and the dinner-symposium ($6,165) with seating for 250-300 guests at $65 each. Featured speakers will be our own heroes **Dick Bodycombe**, **John Clark**, **Bob Shoens**, and **Alex Jefferson**.

*Thunder Over Michigan* is scheduled for the weekend of August 6th-7th this year. Details will be announced on our website and in *Hangar Happenin's*.

The Board held a closed session in an adjoining room for one hour to discuss our Lapeer property and a pending Ad Hoc Committee lawsuit. Because Board member **Andy Robinson** is a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, he was asked to exclude himself from the closed session; he remained in the outer room with other members.

Next on the agenda was a personal request from **Jon Stevens**, which was tabled for a Special Board Meeting to be held Saturday 29 January 2005.

Also tabled was the next agenda item regarding requirements for our curator.

A budget of $20,000 has already been approved for the June Vietnam event. **Bill Colwell** proposed an additional $39,000, details to be discussed and voted on at the next Board meeting. Since there can be no admission charge to see the Wall replica, event planners hope to also feature the *Sky Soldiers* helicopter assault demonstration team, for which tickets would be sold.

**Bill Wier** asked the Board to consider implementing a new fund in the form of annual pledges from our members. This was approved, to be named the *Annual Capital Campaign* and headed by Bill Wier.

Treasurer **Les Klima** questioned our hiring policy and authorization to pay an intern from a time report submitted by our curator. **Mary Jane Medlock** asked if volunteers could help in the future.

**Jon Stevens** awaits approval from airport managers Sean Brosnan and Bob Wilson on more office space. Predictions are that Hangar 2 has a life expectancy of 5-7 more years, and that Yankee will vacate within 3 years.

**Dennis Norton** of *Michigan Aerospace Foundation* was not present. Our Board is requesting a monthly financial statement from the Foundation. To date, MAF has raised $127,000. Each YAF Board member will be provided a photo-copy for review of our 2002 *Memorandum of Understanding* with MAF, plus a copy of our 30-year lease with Willow Run Airport.

**Joe Leugers** will be the Board's new Willow Run Division liaison, replacing **Don Burke**. Liaison for the Florida Division is open. **Bud Miller** is the new chairman in Florida. Our liaisons had no reports from our Northeast and Saginaw Valley Divisions. **Brian Higgins**, Board liaison for the Wurtsmith Division, reports Wurtsmith has a large tug we can use.

Vice President **Dick Stewart** reported that access to our fire site is still awaiting approval from Willow Run Airport Risk Management. He assured the static aircraft crew, eager to do restoration work, that our F-101 Voodoo can now be moved into Bay 6 at Hangar 2.

Secretary **Mary Jane Medlock** has kept pace with over 200 donation letters since the fire.

Treasurer **Les Klima** reported $100,000 December 2004 income from donations and pre-sales of FLEX rides. Our $75,000 November loss was worsened by our December expenses of $40,000. Totals are not yet in on our percentage of the *Pizza Hut* sales on Tuesday 4 January, but **Norm Ellickson** received a $303 check from *Haab's* for 10% of their proceeds on Sunday 16 January. We have received between $6,500-$7,000 from donation canisters, and $9,799 from our *GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN* shirts.

**Brian Higgins** suggested, in keeping with a 1941 airbase theme, that we use Quonset huts instead of a proposed double-wide mobile home as our base of operations near the static airpark.

**Mary Ann Bittner** voiced concern that progress on a new hangar has not been listed on recent Board agendas.

NOTE:
The Special Board Meeting planned for Saturday 29 January 2005 was subsequently cancelled.
The **February Board Meeting** was postponed from 16 February to **Wednesday 23 February 2005**.
It was later learned that the *Sky Soldiers* assault helicopter team will be unavailable for our Vietnam event.

# *Library Libs*

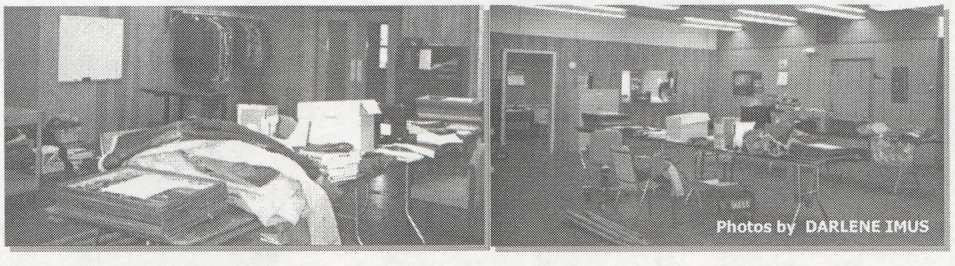
by **Darlene Imus**

I am working with our Curator **Gayle Roberts** in Yankee Air Museum's Conservation Lab. Gayle and her interns handle all our artifacts there.

My Library staff and I — **Ron Bendrey**, **Joe Comps**, **Scott Fresh**, **Don Johnson**, **Rich Lenard**, **Mike Michaels**, **Dave Stonoski** and **Sam Sturgis** — deal with donated archival materials: books, magazines, documents, photographs, video-tapes, and DVDs.

We are working with a new database system into which we record all of our materials and save them on the computer.

First, we are given a copy of the *DEED of GIFT* followed by an *Appendix 2* sheet where information is recorded from the *DEED of GIFT.* The facts gathered from the *Appendix 2* sheet are then placed into the Library's database. There is a lot of detailed information recorded for each item, important for our future use. An appreciation letter is then written separately. This system is a new procedure for all of us in the Library*!*




*LEFT: A nearly panoramic view inside Yankee Air Museum's bright, heated, and spacious* ***Conservation Lab*** *at 2033 A Street near our old hangar.*

*Generous donations of uniforms, equipment, books and photographs have poured in since the fire last fall.*

*Not shown, around the corner to the right, is an area of sturdy shelving used to organize and store artifacts.*

---

On Veterans Day 2004, I had the opportunity to represent Yankee Air Museum by giving a talk to a group of senior citizens at the *Turner Center.* This center operates in coordination with the *Turner Unit* at the *University of Michigan Medical Center.* A neighbor of mine, Laura, is a social worker at the Turner Center. In talking with her, she said that her group had concerns about Yankee Air Museum's fire. They had a field trip to see our Museum last spring and expressed a sadness over the loss. I agreed to speak with them about the fire, emphasizing the positive about our plan to rebuild. It was a delight to interact with them. They listened attentively, then had great questions about our future as an organization. Before lunch, each one had an opportunity to share their own experiences regarding Veterans Day. I learned a lot and have great admiration for them. I hope to go back sometime for another visit.

***Darlene Imus***
*at the Turner Center*

In June 2005, I am officially taking an early retirement from teaching. This year, I am having the pleasure of working with Yankee Air Museum's wonderful Library staff. I like sharing in the experience of seeing our Library grow. I look forward to this new adventure in life*!*

# 2005 YANKEE AIR FORCE AIRSHOW SCHEDULE

**As of** January 26, 2005

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | May 07-08 | | | |
| | | | **May 08** | **Mother's Day** | | |
| | | | May 14-15 | | | |
| | | | May 21 | Willow Run Airport Open House | | Willow Run, MI |
| B-17? | B-25? | C-47? | May 21-22 | Selfridge ANGB Airshow | BA | Mt Clemens, MI |
| B-17! | | | May 27-30 | American Airpower Museum dsply | -FLEX | Farmingdale,NY |
| | | | **May 30** ? | YAF **Memorial Day** Open House??? | | Willow Run, MI |
| | B-25? | | May 30 | Dearborn Memorial Day Parade Flyby | | Dearborn, MI |
| B-17! | | | May 31-02 | Mid Atlantic Air Museum dsply | -FLEX | Reading, PA |
| B-17! | B-25! | C-47! | Jun 03-05 | WWII Commemorative Weekend | -FLEX | Reading, PA |
| | | | Jun 11-12 | | | |
| | B-25! | | Jun 11-12 | Airport Open House/Static dsp | -FLEX | Indiana, PA |
| B-17! | | C-47! | Jun 17-19 | MAPS Aero Expo 2005 | -FLEX | Akron, OH(AKR) |
| | B-25! | | Jun 18 | airport open house/static dspl | -FLEX | Sidney, OH |
| | B-25! | | Jun 19 | Michigan Int'l Speedway Flyby | -NASCAR | Brooklyn, MI |
| | | | **Jun 19** | **Father's Day** | | |
| | B-25! | | Jun 24-26 | Airport Open House/Static dsp | -FLEX | Jamestown, NY |
| | | | Jun 25-26 | | | |
| B-17? | B-25? | | Jly 01-03 | Airport Open House/Static dsp | -FLEX | Richmond, IN |
| | | | **Jly 04** | **4th of July** Monday | | |
| B-17? | B-25? | C-47? | Jly 08-10 | U.S. Aviation Museum Airshow | -FLEX | Euclid, OH??? |
| | | | Jly 16-17 | Vectren Dayton Airshow | TB | Dayton, OH |
| | B-25! | | Jly 20-24 | aircraft static display | -FLEX | Charlevoix, MI |
| B-17! | | | Jly 22-24 | Air Expo 2005 - Wings / North | -FLEX | EdenPrairie,MN |
| | | | Jly 25-31 | EAA AirVenture Oshkosh | | Oshkosh, WI |
| | | | Jly 30-31 | | | |
| B-17? | | | Jly 31 | Cranbrook Flyby - car show | | BloomfldHls,MI |
| | | | Aug 06-07 | "Thunder Over Michigan" Air Display | | Willow Run, MI |
| | | | Aug 13-14 | | | |
| B-17! | | C-47! | Aug 19-21 | EAA Chapter 55 Static Display | -FLEX | Mason, MI |
| | | | Aug 20-21 | | | |
| B-17? | | | Aug 26-28 | Indianapolis Airshow 2005 | BA | Mt Comfort, IN |
| | | | Aug 27-28 | | | |
| B-17! | B-25! | C-47! | Sep 02-05 | Cleveland National Airshow | TB | Cleveland, OH |
| | | | **Sep 05** | **Labor Day** | | |
| | | | Sep 09-11 | Cincinnati Airshow - P-47 Reunion | | Cincinnati, OH |
| B-17? | | | Sep 10-11 | Airport Open House/Static dsply | (MRT) | Marysville, OH |
| | | | Sep 17-18? | YAF Anniversary Weekend??? | | Willow Run, MI |
| B-17? | | | Sep 17-18 | Aviation Day with Flair-Kent State | | Stow, OH |
| | | | Sep 24-25 | | | |

**!** = Confirmed **?** = Undetermined **FLEX** = Flight Experiences **BA** = US Navy *Blue Angels* **TB** = US Air Force *Thunderbirds*

To participate as part of the crew at an airshow is a privilege, not an entitlement of Yankee Air Museum membership. There are only so many aircraft seats available depending on the number required for a crew. Crew members are chosen for the good of Yankee Air Museum and for the particular aircraft scheduled. Obviously, not everyone can go at the same time.

The ***2005 Airshow Crew Sign-Up Request*** forms are available in the Yankee office at Hangar 2. Completed request forms must be returned to **Dale Worcester**. Please do not request an airshow that has not yet been confirmed ( **!** = confirmed, as indicated in the latest schedule above ) .

**Dale Worcester**
Airshow Aircrew Coordinator

### *The Wall That Heals*

Plans for hosting the Vietnam Veterans Touring Memorial Wall are progressing very well. Our Events Committee is working with a Vietnam veterans group, including some Yankee members, who have been previously involved with displays of the Wall, and they are certainly making our job easier. *Belleville Greenhouse* landscaped around the Wall when it was displayed at Belleville High School several years ago and owner Jim Ackron has agreed to take on this major task again. We will need volunteers to help set up and dismantle the Wall, as well as provide 24-hour security while the Wall is here. The Vietnam veterans group will be working with us on security. Also required are volunteer guides to help people find names on the Wall and assist visitors. To volunteer, contact **Don Brackett** at **(248) 425-2855** or **donb-38@sbcglobal.net**. An opening ceremony will be held Friday June 3rd, with remarks by Vietnam veteran **Randy Hotton**. A dinner-symposium in conjunction with the Wall exhibit will be held Saturday evening June 4th. There will be a charge for the dinner-symposium, but there is no admission to see the Wall which will be accessible 24 hours a day. A closing ceremony will be held Sunday evening June 5th including a bugler playing *Taps*. We will have more ticket information and details for you in the April issue of *Hangar Happenin's*.

## THE WAY IT WAS by Ev Kennedy

**Gene Kennedy, Ev Kennedy, Wayne Macy**

The photograph above shows brothers **Gene** and **Everett Kennedy** with friend **Wayne Macy**, all Yankee members, about a month before the fire of 9 October 2004 burned our hangar to the ground.

This familiar scene that will remain in our hearts forever shows the magnificent scale models of the P-51 Mustang *Old Crow*, the F4U Corsair and the L-5 flying over the Yankee Air Museum tour desk at right. In the background you can see the outstanding display of patches that were available for purchase in our Museum Store.

The loss of "The Hangar" has left a void in our lives along with that of so many of the active members of the Yankee Air Force. Like so many things in life, you don't realize how important they are until they are gone.

We are looking forward to the day when we have our new hangar and can again greet visitors from all over the country and the world, especially World War II veterans.

*Sadly, the Heaven Division really needed our old hangar. Their membership is going up. But think of all the good times they will have there ... forever.*

— ***Linda Terentiak***

## *In Memory Of...*

**MAX BELL**
Senior Life Member #143
passed away
05 January 2005

**HAROLD BROWNELL**
of Grosse Ile, Michigan
passed away in
December 2004

**RALPH CHOINIERE**
of Arizona passed away.
*His YAF name tag was retired at our February meeting with a donation in his memory from* ***John Glasser****.*

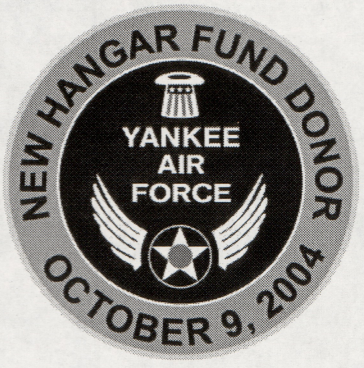
**LINUS FRENCH**
of Toledo, Ohio
*34-mission WW II B-17 pilot*
passed away
20 January 2005

**DAN HARNER**
of Alexandria, Virginia
*Son of Don & Yvonne Harner*
passed away
20 January 2005

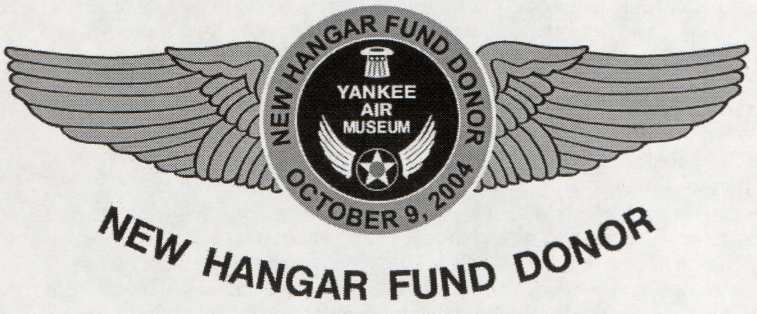
**EARL MEREDITH**
passed away
20 January 2005

# HONOR THE PAST BY HELPING TO BUILD OUR FUTURE

Order our new sweatshirt or jacket today! Profits go toward building a new hangar. Both items are black and feature embroidery designed exclusively for the *New Hangar Fund.* The embroidery is sewn on the front and back. Five bright colors are used. Silver, yellow, and red are the most prominent.




**LEFT FRONT CHEST 4" DIA.**




**BACK 4"h X 10"w**

The lightweight microfiber jacket is perfect to wear during spring or fall. It has two secured pockets on the outside and one on the inside. The cuffs have adjustable snaps. An elasticized waistband ensures a comfortable fit. Our heavyweight sweatshirt has long sleeves and a crew neck.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jacket | **$139.00** | Michigan residents | **$147.34** |
| Sweatshirt | **$69.00** | Michigan residents | **$73.14** |

**CIRCLE the item you wish to order:** **Lightweight Jacket** **Heavyweight Sweatshirt**

**CIRCLE the size:** **Men's Medium** **Men's Large** **Men's XL** **Men's 2XL**

Allow 3 to 4 weeks for free delivery. Use previous issues of *Hangar Happenin's* to order items we did not include in this ad. Call (248) 474-1000 or e-mail amersilk2@aol.com if you have questions about your order.

Make your check payable to the **YANKEE AIR MUSEUM**

**Name** _____

**Address** _____

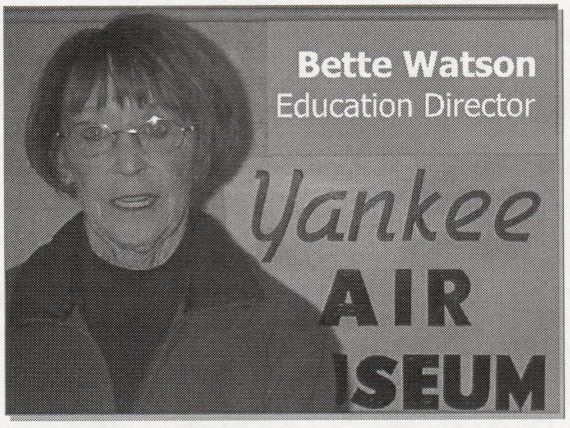
**City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

**Phone** _____ **Best time to call** _____

**Mail this order form to:**

**MAIL ORDER OFFER**
**YANKEE AIR MUSEUM STORE**
**P.O. BOX 590**
**BELLEVILLE, MI 48112-0590**

***BETTE WATSON*** *heads our EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Helping to fulfill our purpose of public education, she shares the history of aviation and spirit of Yankee Air Museum with area students.*




In January 1986, I joined the Yankee Air Force. I was immediately put to work! I was told it was a good way to meet other members and learn about the organization, which I found out to be true.

Through the years, I have organized events, cooked, cleaned and have done speaking engagements. I have worked in our gift shop and toured with our aircraft.

When we were restoring our B-17, I had a chance to help with that restoration. In fact, if anyone asks me what is inside the wings, I can tell them! **Todd Hackbarth** and I designed a donation patch and fundraising brochure for our B-17 *Yankee Lady*.

Sometime around the mid-1990s, **Don Harner** persuaded me to consider doing education programs for Yankee Air Force. I started talking with my friends who I have met in other museums about their educational programs. I traveled to their museums and observed. I volunteered my time with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) when they took the *Air Bear* program (developed by the *99s* women's aviation group) to elementary schools in the area.

After this learning period, I put together several programs for grade schoolers. I was very glad it was a Kindergarten class I visited first, so when I made a mistake no one really knew. **Beverly Dallape** let me experiment on her school. They noticed I talked too long for little ones who don't have the attention span.

Today we offer many programs covering Kindergarten through 12th grade in high school. I would not be able to do these programs without the help of many Yankee members, including **Dick Bodycombe**, **Ted Drews**, **Ted Edmunds**, **Jim Redick**, **John** and **Marie Clark**, **Bob Shoens**, and **Alex Jefferson**.

For the past three years, we have been involved with the *Sally Ride Science Festival* held on the University of Michigan's North Campus in Ann Arbor. Yankee members **Connie Schwartz**, **Lauren Schwartz**, **Carol Foy**, **Carol Callan**, and **Mary Ann Bittner** have all been there to help me out.

At our hangar for a couple of years our Education Department was involved with Eastern Michigan University's Young Writers program, in which many of our members participated.

Our education programs have taken us to many schools in the tri-county area and we have seen students from all areas at our hangar, even students from Saginaw.

In late 1999, I wanted to offer a scholarship for Belleville High School graduates to be named the *Don and Yvonne Harner Memorial Scholarship*. Our Board of Directors quickly approved. **Dick Bodycombe** and **Ray Hunter** helped put our scholarship program together. Our first scholarship of $500 was awarded in the year 2000. Since then, eight Belleville High School seniors have earned this scholarship and two have been renewed. Our scholarship program is probably the accomplishment of which I am the most proud.

Last year we began taping our veterans' oral histories with the help of Belleville High School Media Productions. Since our fire at the hangar, most of our educational materials were lost, but I am slowly replacing them. Programs must be taken entirely to the schools now. In the future, I hope Yankee's Education Department will have a classroom/auditorium with state-of-the-art teaching tools. I look forward to the challenges ahead!

Next month: **Gayle Roberts** reports on her work as **Curator** of Yankee Air Museum.

We extend a very special and historic welcome to all those who have joined Yankee Air Force since October 2004:

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert Adams | Albina Miller |
| Robert Anderson | Jerome Miller |
| James Arndt | Mark Miler |
| Kent Attchison | Gary Nollar |
| Harold Bachman | Trudy Nollar |
| Corinne Barringer | Edward Ostrowski |
| Bruce Bell | Chuck Owens |
| Donald Broilo | Russell Payeur |
| Daniel Brown | Frank Pichner |
| Sandra Brown | Daniel Price |
| Phillip Brueckner | Terunce Prigge |
| Ronald Cantin | Peter Ramik |
| David Clark | Darren Reed |
| John Cole | David Rittinger |
| Sanford Cooper | Nancy Robertson |
| Rosemary Crowell | Patricia Rudd |
| Henry DeGraw | John Scanlon |
| John Elliott | Michael Schafer |
| Gerald Essenmacher | Joseph Schirrick |
| Barbara Esterly | David Sickles |
| Peter Gaecke | Colleen Sielski |
| Joanna Galysh | James Sleidle |
| Matthew Galysh | Patricia Smart |
| Nanette Galysh | Frank Stasa, Jr. |
| Robert Galysh | Mary Ann Stasa |
| Eric Ganz | Richard Syron |
| Paul Ganz | Irma Torres |
| Julian Gerken | Paul Trame, Jr. |
| Raymond Gunn | Anita Trelfa |
| Charles Hancock | Deborah Trelfa |
| Ron Heinz | Chuck VanVleck |
| Justin Juriga | Richard Verbiest |
| Dale Kleimola | Philip Vinci |
| Carl Koch | Bardo VonKorff |
| Nancy Kretschman | Brent Warner |
| Holly Major-Price | Cris Warner |
| Frank Maza | Mark Waybright |
| Barbara McAllister | Larry Wiechers |
| Michael McCombs | Thomas Wilson |
| Hugh McVeigh | Robert Yoder |
| Kirk Meller | Duane Zemper |

## "Spaghetti Dinner" At the "Italian Bistro Café"

Saturday, April 9, 2005

UAW Local 735

48055 Michigan, Canton, MI

**Doors Open at 6:00 pm**

**Dinner at 7:00 pm**

Tickets: $25.00 per person

Available at WR Hangar 2

(734) 483-4030

*Music Provided by: Rhythm Society Orchestra*

**All proceeds go to the Yankee Air Museum Recovery Fund**

## *REUNION !*

**494th Bomb Group (H)** flew B-24s in World War II with the **7th AAF**

Wednesday-Sunday 11-15 May 2005
Radisson Inn
Colorado Springs North, Colorado 80920

Contact: **Marshall Keller**
7412-A Vassar Drive East
West Bloomfield MI 48322
Phone or Fax 1-248-626-3684

**Gilbert Rohde**
10589 Ronald Lane
Northglenn CO 80234
Phone 1-303-452-5078

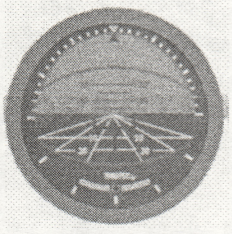
*OR*

**Herman Gerres**
Phone 1-719-564-4680

**AIR GOONEY proudly announces our famous Yankee C-47 day trips for 2005/** MEMBERS ONLY/

**USAF Museum - Dayton, OH**
June 7, 21, 25, 26, July 19, Aug 2, 23, Sept 20
**EAA Museum - Oshkosh, WI** June 14
**National Warbird Museum - Elmira, NY** July 12
**Mackinac Island, MI** - July 26, Sept 13
**Udvar-Hazy Center - Dulles DC** Aug 16-17 OVERNIGHT
**Cincinnati, OH** - Aug 30
At least 10 seats must be booked 3 weeks in advance.
Call **Jack** & **Neoma** to sign up:
**(313) 274-8655** *11 AM - 6 PM only, please.*

# ON THE HORIZON



**AIR PARK**

East side of Willow Run Airport
at Beck & Ecorse Roads

**HANGAR**

Southwest side of Willow Run Airport
in Hangar 2

**www.yankeeairmuseum.org**

## MARCH 2005

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wednesday March 2nd | Yankee General Membership Meeting<br>7:30 PM *NEW LOCATION! Hangar 2 classroom upstairs* | **MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME** |
| Sunday March 6th | ***Bugles Across America*** Recite our Pledge and hear TAPS<br>7:15 PM at the Veterans Memorial in Belleville<br>on High Street overlooking Belleville Lake, next to *Belleville Grille* | FREE<br>**EVERYONE WELCOME**<br>FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH |
| Wednesday March 16th | Yankee Board Meeting<br>7:30 PM *NEW LOCATION! Hangar 2 classroom upstairs* | **ALL MEMBERS WELCOME** |

## FORWARD MARCH !

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday April 2nd | *9th ANNUAL* **Polishing Party** ***FIRST SATURDAY IN APRIL!*** | **EVERYONE NOW WELCOME** |
| Saturday April 2nd | Yankee Air Museum hosts a benefit folk & blues concert*!*<br>*Bob Posch, Orthea Barnes, Ron Coden, and Josh White, Jr.*<br>***The Village Theater at Cherry Hill*** *in Canton, Michigan*<br>*located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road at Ridge Road North*<br>*6 PM Wine & Hors d'oeuvres Reception 7 PM Concert*<br>*TICKETS* ***$50*** *CHARGE BY PHONE* ***(734) 394-5460*** *or*<br>*US MAIL checks payable to CANTON TOWNSHIP -YAM*<br>*Village Theater Tickets, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton MI 48188* | **EVERYONE WELCOME** |
| *All proceeds to our rebuilding campaign !* | | |
| Saturday April 9th | Spaghetti Dinner at Yankee's *Italian Bistro Café*<br>at *UAW Local 735* in Canton at 48055 Michigan Avenue<br>between Beck & Denton Roads on south side of Michigan Avenue | **EVERYONE WELCOME** |
| Saturday May 7th | Plymouth Historical Society fundraiser | DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED |
| Saturday May 21st | Willow Run Airport Open House | **EVERYONE WELCOME** |
| Monday May 30th | Memorial Day | **EVERYONE WELCOME** |
| Saturday June 4th *WEEKEND* | Vietnam Veterans Touring Memorial ***The Wall That Heals*** | **ALL WELCOME** |
| Tuesday June 7th | *Air Gooney:* first C-47 day trip of 2005 to National Museum of USAF | ***$110*** **MEMBERS ONLY** |
| Monday-Sunday<br>July 25th-July 31st | NEW DAYS*! (Not Tuesday-Monday as years past)*<br>EAA *AirVenture* 2005, Oshkosh, Wisconsin | **EAA MEMBERS ONLY** |
| August 6th-7th | ***Thunder Over Michigan***<br>*60th Anniversary of the End of World War II* | **EVERYONE WELCOME** |
| September *TO BE ANNOUNCED* | Volunteer Appreciation Day | DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED |
| Saturday December 10th | Holiday Party | DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED |

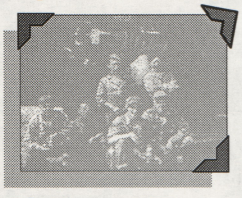
PLEASE PHONE FOR DETAILS **(734) 483-4030**. WATCH FOR UPDATES AT **www.yankeeairmuseum.org**.

# Thunder Over Michigan 2005

*The bombers are coming!* *August 6th and 7th*

. *World's only flying B-29* ***"FIFI"***

. *World's only two flying B-24s* ***DIAMOND 'LIL'***



*and* ***Witchcraft***

*formerly* ***All American / THE DRAGON AND HIS TAIL***

. *Six B-17 Flying Fortresses*

*Stay tuned for more details!* ***www.yankeeairmuseum.org***

***Saluting 3,622 members worldwide***

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ON THE COVER *Priceless makes perfect!*
World War II coloring books crayoned by a future pilot are the kind of priceless treasures that make perfect donations to Yankee Air Museum.

Call our curator at (734) 482-9810.

Recently received from **Jerry Nichols**

**. FLYING CADETS**
**. FLYING FORTS**
**. WAR PLANES, TANKS and JEEPS**

The Merrill Publishing Company © 1943
Art by Fredric C. Madan

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING ADDRESS! NOTIFY OUR MEMBERSHIP OFFICE OF ANY CHANGES (734) 483-4030